Decision 06-07-014 July 20, 2006

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Tian, Xiao Ping of Soogle Tours and Travel for authority to operate as a Shuttle Bus Service from Milpitas to San Jose, Cupertino and San Francisco International Airport. At the rate of \$18 each way.

Application 06-03-010 (Filed March 8, 2006)

OPINION

Summary

This decision grants the application of Xiaoping Tian (Applicant), an individual, pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 1031 et seq., for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate as a passenger stage corporation (PSC), as defined in Pub. Util. Code § 226.

Discussion

The application requests authority to operate as a scheduled PSC to transport passengers and their baggage between Milpitas, San Jose, Cupertino, and San Francisco International Airport (SFO). The service will operate 13 round trips daily with departures between 6:00 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. The fare will be \$18 one way.

Applicant states there is a need for safe, reliable, and affordable transportation between these points. Passengers will be able to avoid the stress of dealing with traffic as well as the costs of gas and parking. They will be aided by drivers who are well-trained and speak a second language (primarily

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Mandarin) in addition to English. The environment will benefit from a reduction in the number of vehicles operating on the streets and highways.

Applicant already holds a charter-party carrier permit from the Commission (TCP 19825-P). He will conduct the PSC service using one 24-passenger bus and two 14-passenger vans. His unaudited balance sheet discloses assets of \$160,000, liabilities of \$28,700, and net worth of \$131,300.

Notice of filing of the application appeared in the Commission's Daily Calendar on March 13, 2006. Applicant served notice of the application to SFO, the involved county and cities, and the public transit operator in the service area.

In Resolution ALJ 176-3169 dated March 15, 2006, the Commission preliminarily categorized this application as ratesetting, and preliminarily determined that hearings were not necessary. No protest has been received. Given this status, public hearing is not necessary, and it is not necessary to alter the preliminary determinations made in Resolution ALJ 176-3169.

This is an uncontested matter in which the decision grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 311(g)(2), the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is being waived.

Assignment of Proceeding

Richard Clark is the assigned Examiner in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

- 1. The application requests authority to operate as a scheduled PSC to transport passengers and their baggage between Milpitas, San Jose, Cupertino, and SFO.
 - 2. Public convenience and necessity requires the proposed service.
 - 3. No protest to the application has been filed.
 - 4. A public hearing is not necessary.

5. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Conclusions of Law

- 1. Public convenience and necessity has been demonstrated and the application should be granted.
- 2. Since the matter is uncontested, the decision should be effective on the date it is signed.
- 3. Only the amount paid to the State for operative rights may be used in rate fixing. The State may grant any number of rights and may cancel or modify the monopoly feature of these rights at any time.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) is granted to Xiaoping Tian (Applicant), an individual, authorizing him to operate as a passenger stage corporation (PSC), as defined in Pub. Util. Code § 226, to transport passengers and their baggage between the points and over the routes set forth in Appendix PSC-19825, subject to the conditions contained in the following paragraphs.
 - 2. Applicant shall:
 - a. File a written acceptance of this certificate within 30 days after this order is effective.
 - b. Establish the authorized service and file tariffs and timetables within 120 days after this order is effective.
 - c. File tariffs and timetables on or after the effective date of this order. They shall become effective ten days or more after the effective date of this order, provided that the

- Commission and the public are given not less than ten days' notice.
- d. Comply with General Orders Series 101 and 158, and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) safety rules.
- e. Comply with the controlled substance and alcohol testing certification program pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 1032.1 and General Order Series 158.
- f. Remit to the Commission the Transportation Reimbursement Fee required by Pub. Util. Code § 423 when notified by mail to do so.
- g. Comply with Pub. Util. Code §§ 460.7 and 1043, relating to the Workers' Compensation laws of this state.
- h. Enroll all drivers in the pull notice system as required by Section 1808.1 of the Vehicle Code.
- 3. Applicant is authorized to begin operations on the date that the Consumer Protection and Safety Division mails a notice to Applicant that his evidence of insurance and other documents required by Ordering Paragraph 2 have been filed with the Commission and that the CHP has approved the use of Applicant's vehicles for service.
- 4. Before beginning service to any airport, Applicant shall notify the airport's governing body. Applicant shall not operate into or on airport property unless such operations are authorized by the airport's governing body.
- 5. The CPCN to operate as PSC-19825, granted herein, expires unless exercised within 120 days after the effective date of this order.
 - 6. The Application is granted as set forth above.

A.06-03-010 CPSD/RWC/pw

7. This proceeding is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated July 20, 2006, at San Francisco, California.

MICHAEL R. PEEVEY
President
GEOFFREY F. BROWN
DIAN M. GRUENEICH
JOHN A. BOHN
RACHELLE B. CHONG
Commissioners

Xiaoping Tian (an individual)

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CERTIFICATE

OF

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

AS A PASSENGER STAGE CORPORATION

PSC-19825

Showing passenger stage operative rights, restrictions, limitations, exceptions, and privileges.

All changes and amendments as authorized by the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California will be made as revised pages or added original pages.

Issued under authority of Decision 06-07-014, dated July 20, 2006, of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California in Application 06-03-010.

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SECTION I. GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS, RESTRICTIONS, LIMITATIONS, AND SPECIFICATIONS.

Xiaoping Tian, an individual, by the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by the decision noted in the foot of the margin, is authorized to transport passengers and their baggage on a scheduled basis between the points described in Section II, over the route described in Section III, subject, however, to the authority of this Commission to change or modify this authority at any time and subject to the following provisions:

- A. When a route description is given in one direction, it applies to operation in either direction unless otherwise indicated.
- B. Service will be operated only at the points described in Section II. A description of all the stop points and the arrival and departure times from such points shall be indicated in the timetable filed with the Commission.
- C. This certificate does not authorize the holder to conduct any operation on the property of any airport unless such operation is authorized by the airport authority involved.

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SECTION II. SERVICE AREA.

- A. Milpitas
- B. San Jose
- C. Cupertino
- D. San Francisco International Airport (SFO)

SECTION III. ROUTE DESCRIPTION.

Commencing from Milpitas, then over the most convenient streets and highways to San Jose, Cupertino, and SFO.